From: Morning Consult
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Subject: Morning Consult Tech, Presented by Autos2050: Week in Review & What"s Ahead
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By Sam Sabin

Week in Review

EU antitrust measures

- Margrethe Vestager, Europe's competition commissioner, will announce this week that Google is being fined for hampering potential rival search advertisers, according to three people familiar with the matter, following an investigation focused on Google's AdSense business. The commission can fine up to $13 billion, but the fine is expected to be smaller than the maximum.
- Apple Inc. said in a statement its app store policies are fair and that Spotify Technologies SA is treated no differently than other developers who use the platform, alleging that the music streaming service is seeking to obtain the

benefits of the App Store without paying the fees that Apple says are necessary for maintaining its ecosystem. Spotify accused Apple in a complaint to European regulators of undercutting rival services in the stores through its transaction fees.

U.S. tech legislation

- Sens. Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) and Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) introduced a bill that would regulate the commercial use of facial recognition technology by requiring companies to gain a person's consent before using the technology in public places and before sharing any of their data with third parties. Both Microsoft Corp. and the Center for Democracy and Technology support the bill.

- Sens. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) and Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) introduced a bill to amend the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act to extend privacy protections to children up to age 15 and limit online platforms from collecting the data of children ages 13 to 15 without their personal consent. The measure would also give parents the right to demand a platform delete all data obtained from their children, and a platform would not be able to discontinue service to that user because of it.

- Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.) is drafting a bill that would require platforms such as Facebook Inc. and Google to inform users of the data that has been gathered from them and what value it has, according to a person with direct knowledge of the proposal. The bill would reportedly also require companies to tell the Securities and Exchange Commission how they obtained the valued personal data and the total value of their data holdings.

- Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Kamala Harris (Calif.) introduced a bill, called the Digital Service Act of 2019, to give state and local governments access to an annual pool of $15 million in grant funding to establish tech teams to modernize government technology. Government officials would be able to apply for two-year grants, ranging between $200,000 to $2.5 million per year based on population, with half of the awarded funds dedicated to employee salaries.

2020 presidential race and tech

- Facebook restored several ads from Sen. Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign that called for the breakup of the company and other tech giants

after removing them for violating advertising policies against using the Facebook corporate logo. Warren thanked Facebook for restoring her campaign advertisements in a tweet, but also said she wants a "social media marketplace that isn't dominated by a single censor."

- Democratic presidential candidates Warren, Sen. Amy Klobuchar (Minn.), former Rep John Delaney (Md.) and former Housing Secretary Julián Castro are expected to debate monopolies and antitrust enforcement in rural Iowa later this month. Every declared Democratic candidate was invited, according to an events spokesperson.

Facebook Inc.

- A grand jury in New York has subpoenaed records on at least two major makers of smartphones and other devices, according to two people familiar with the matter, in a federal criminal investigation into Facebook's data deals with more than 150 tech companies, including Amazon.com Inc., Apple and Microsoft. The deals reportedly allowed the companies to see users' friends, contact information and other data, sometimes without consent.

- Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee have requested documents from Facebook on a number of different issues, according to people familiar with the efforts, with some of the requests relating to the 2016 presidential campaign. The committee also requested information that shows how the platform has been used by people who have committed hate crimes, one source said.

Huawei Technologies Co.

- The Trump administration threatened to limit its intelligence sharing with Germany if the European country allows Huawei Technologies Co. or other Chinese equipment to build its next-generation mobile-internet infrastructure, according to a letter seen by reporters, marking the first time the United States has explicitly warned an ally that it would restrict its security cooperation if they used such telecommunications equipment.

- North Atlantic Treaty Organization Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said the group is weighing how to respond to security concerns raised by some of NATO's 29 allies over working with Huawei on 5G infrastructure projects.

Stoltenberg said NATO takes the concerns "very seriously" and that members will continue to assess if the group has "a role to play" in any response.

National security

- Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing that Google's work in China is "indirectly benefiting the Chinese military." The comments come after Google's decision to back out of consideration for some of the Pentagon's contracts and amid reports that the tech company was considering building a censored search engine in China.
- The U.S. Navy and its contractors are "under cyber siege" by Chinese hackers and others who have stolen national secrets in recent years and are struggling to keep up with the scale of the attacks, according to an internal Navy assessment delivered to Navy Secretary Richard Spencer and reviewed by reporters. The report faults naval officials with not anticipating cyberattacks and for not adequately informing contractors of the threat.

What's Ahead

- The House and Senate are in recess this week.
- The Federal Trade Commission is hosting a hearing on competition in the U.S. broadband markets as a part of its Hearings Initiative to examine competition and consumer protection issues.
- Apple is set to unveil its streaming and news subscription services March 25.

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

03/15/2019

SXSW 2019

FCC's March open commission meeting	10:30 am
Technology Policy Institute's panel discussion on "Blockchain 201: Policy Questions for 2019"	12:30 pm

03/18/2019

Federal Communications Bar Association's brown bag lunch on intellectual property and video programming & distribution committees	12:15 pm

03/19/2019

2019 ANA Advertising Law & Public Policy Conference

The Economist's AI Agenda	8:00 am
TIA Policy Forum co-hosted with Samsung on industry innovations and government partnerships in managing the ICT supply chain	12:00 pm
TIA Policy Forum: Managing the ICT Supply Chain: Industry Innovations and Government Partnership	12:00 pm
The Center for Growth and Opportunity at Utah State University's "Unpacking Privacy: Perspectives and Principles" event on Capitol Hill	2:00 pm
The American Cable Association's Summit 26	2:00 pm

03/20/2019

2019 ANA Advertising Law & Public Policy Conference

The American Cable Association's Summit 26	7:30 am
California's Wildfire Technology Innovation Summit	8:30 am
FTC hearing on competition and consumer protection in the U.S. broadband markets	9:00 am
FTC Commissioner Noah Phillips keynote at the ACT on patents in telecoms	12:00 pm

Center for Strategic & International Studies' Schieffer series event on China's rise	5:00 pm

03/21/2019

2019 ANA Advertising Law & Public Policy Conference	
Forbes' 2018 #BoardForward Awards	
The American Cable Association's Summit 26	7:30 am
FT Digital Surgery Summit	8:00 am
California's Wildfire Technology Innovation Summit	8:30 am
Federal Communications Bar Association's 14th Annual Privacy & Data Security Symposium	

03/22/2019

FTC Commissioner Chopra remarks at conference on Consumer Protection in an Age of Uncertainty	9:15 am
ITIF's event on e-commerce in the U.S Postal Service	12:30 pm

View full calendar

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The Future of Driving Starts Here. April 2, 2019, Washington, DC.

Registration is OPEN for Autos2050®, the premier tech and policy event created by 12 automakers who are transforming mobility.

Autos2050® showcases breakthrough moments in how we think about transportation - the best and brightest of 2019 and beyond. Set squarely within the epicenter of federal activity on public policy, Autos2050® will offer perspectives by thought leaders and policy experts on the future of driving.

Morning Consult Tech Top Reads

1) How Google Influences The Conversation In Washington
Nitasha Tiku, Wired

2) Navy, Industry Partners Are 'Under Cyber Siege' by Chinese Hackers, Review Asserts
Gordon Lubold and Dustin Volz, The Wall Street Journal

3) On Disability and on Facebook? Uncle Sam Wants to Watch What You Post
Robert Pear, The New York Times

4) A new bill would require tech platforms to disclose the value of users' data
David McCabe and Kaveh Waddell, Axios

5) Facebook's Data Deals Are Under Criminal Investigation
Michael LaForgia et al., The New York Times

6) U.S. House technology panel heads seeks delay in 5G spectrum auction
Makini Brice, Reuters

7) 48 billion robocalls annoyed Americans last year
Sara Fischer, Axios

8) New privacy bill would give parents an 'Eraser Button' and ban ads targeting children
Makena Kelly, The Verge

9) Senators introduce bill to regulate facial recognition technology
Emily Birnbaum, The Hill

10) These Senators Want Homeland Security To "Pause" Its Airport Facial Recognition Program
Davey Alba, BuzzFeed News

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